



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Chairman Phil Roe, M.D.

H.R. 3657: To expand authority to provide headstones and markers to eligible spouses and dependents in tribal veterans cemeteries

Background:

Under current law, non-veteran spouses or dependent children are eligible for a headstone or marker from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) if they are buried or interred in a national or state veterans cemetery. However, they are not eligible for a VA headstone or marker if they are laid to rest in a tribal veterans cemetery.

H.R. 3657 would authorize VA to provide headstones and markers to eligible spouses and dependents who are buried or interred at tribal veterans cemeteries. It would also allow VA to provide memorial headstones or markers for family members whose remains are unavailable and who are memorialized in tribal cemeteries

The Message:

- Currently, VA can only provide headstones and markers to eligible non-veterans who are buried or memorialized in a national or state veterans cemetery.
- Eligible spouses and dependent children should not be prohibited from receiving a headstone or marker if they are laid to rest or are memorialized in a tribal veterans cemetery.